GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1207
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
HURDLES IN SETHUSAMUDRAM PROJECT
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Shukla Smt. Karuna

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the proposed Sethu-Samudram Project in Tamil Nadu has started;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present status of the said project;

(d) whether the Government has received any suggestion or alternative to save the underwater bridge from dredging;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The commencement of the work for the project was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 02.07.2005 and the work is in progress.The project involves dredging work mainly at two places namely Adam's Bridge and Palk Strait & Palk Bay.As estimated, a total quantity of 82.5 million cubic metres is required to be dredged. The Dredging Corporation of India Ltd., Visakhapatnam has been entrusted with the dredging work of the project. The work at Adam's Bridge has commenced on 11.12.2006.

(d) & (e): Representations against undertaking the project have been received. However, as per the scientific information available with the Project Authorities, there is no underwater construction in the project area.

(f) : As per the Detailed Project Report (DPR), the project is scheduled to be completed by November, 2008.